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lower temperature, or the reverse. It is also sometimes found difficult to grow several kinds in one tank successfully. The common water-cress (*Nasturtium officinale*), for example, found mostly in cold springs and their brooks, will do well with water starwort (*Callitriche verna*), a plant growing in a similar situation, if the water in the tank is kept at a low temperature; but at a moderately high one grows long and rank, and finally decays. So again many plants which grow in brooks or rivers, and have become accustomed to be constantly moved by a current, when placed in the still water of an aquarium inevitably mould away.—*To be continued.*

REVIEWS

THE BUTTERFLIES OF NEW ENGLAND. — The notice in our last number of Mr. Scudder's promised work on New England Butterflies, has already brought many welcome responses. A number of living butterflies have been sent in cotton wool, and although a day upon their journey, were received alive and in good condition; those who live near Boston might try this method, but we think that most persons would be interested in raising the larvæ themselves. In attempting to obtain eggs for this purpose, it is better not to select the freshest butterflies, as their eggs will often prove undeveloped, or at least unimpregnated. It should also be remembered that the males usually appear about a week before the females, and experiments would therefore be more likely to succeed if made about a fortnight after the species is first observed. The following butterflies can be experimented upon by the time these lines meet the reader's eye:—*Pieris oleracea*, *rapæ* and *Protodice*; *Colias Philodice*; *Anthocaris Genutia*; *Chrysophanus Americanus*; *Lycæna Lucia* and *Comyntas*; *Thecla Auburniana*, *Nippon*, *Augustus* and *Henrici*; *Argynnis Bellona*; *Pyrameis cardui*, *Huntera* and *Atalanta*; *Vanessa Milberti* and *interrogationis*, and *Hesperia Massasoit*, *Quadaquina*, *Pocahontas*, *Metea* and others. The following species, the earlier stages of which are unknown, probably feed on the plants specified:—*Anthocaris Genutia* on cruciferous plants; *Lycæna Lucia* on buckthorn; *Thecla Auburniana* on smilax; *T. Nippon* on pine; *T. Augustus* and *Henrici* on vaccinium; *Argynnis Bellona* on violets or raspberry; and the different species of *Hesperia* on poplar, scrub oak, clover, grasses and various herbaceous plants.

In answer to repeated enquiries, we will state that the males of butterflies may, in general, be distinguished from the females by a series of clasping hooks which protrude from the orifice at the tip of the abdomen; frequently these are effectually concealed by long scales. In a number of families the sexes can be determined by the partially undeveloped condition of the front legs of the male; collectors also know many species by their colors.

The proposed volume will include a history and description of the parasites of butterflies. Dr. Packard has kindly promised his assistance in describing these parasites, and examples of every kind, and in large numbers are desired. They should be accompanied by specimens of the species infested, and if possible, by such as show the mode of attack; the fullest observations on the time and manner of attack, and on the subsequent life of the insects will be acceptable. All specimens will be returned, when desired, by the end of the year.

Complete lists of the butterflies found in different localities, both in New England and the adjacent regions, are wanted, and especially if accompanied by careful memoranda of the exact times of the first appearance, and of the duration of each species. It will be necessary to receive insects from every possible quarter to arrive at a definite knowledge of their habits. To secure this more effectually, Mr. Scudder will name any local collection of butterflies sent to him with notes, at the Boston Society of Natural History, about the first of October; such collections would be returned before the first of January. For the safety, however, of his own collection, and of others entrusted to him, it will be necessary to return at once, unnamed, any collection showing traces of having been previously attacked by museum pests.

As stated last month, the amplest credit will be given in the work for every item of scientific intelligence received. We urge our readers to assist in this undertaking to the extent of their ability. With such material aid, the volume cannot fail to supply a need which has long been felt.

MONOGRAPH OF THE TRICHOPTERYGIDÆ.—Rev. A. Matthews, Market Harborough, England, is preparing an elaborate monograph of this family of Coleoptera. It will be illustrated by dissections of all the genera, which Mr. M. has made in a manner heretofore unapproached, and by figures of all the species. The style of the work may be somewhat appreciated by reference to his description and figure of *Limulinus paradoxus*, in the Annals of the Lyceum of Natural History, New York, VIII, p. 406, pl. 15.

Many new species from the United States will be figured and described in this work, which will be indispensable to the library of all learned societies which cultivate the science of entomology, and to the private libraries of investigating coleopterologists.

Persons who desire to subscribe will please order the work through any importing bookseller, and send their names to me that I may inform